

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM

STATE OF MICHIGAN THE OFFICE OF RACING COMMISSIONER LANSING

CHRISTINE C. WHITE COMMISSIONER

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Governor Granholm declares June is Michigan Horse Racing Month

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm has declared June as "Michigan Horse Racing Month," to honor Michigan's 75 years of horse racing history.

Michigan has six licensed pari-mutuel racetracks, including four harness tracks (Hazel Park Harness Raceway, Jackson Harness Raceway, Northville Downs and Sports Creek Raceway), one mixed breed racetrack (Mount Pleasant Meadows) and one thoroughbred track under construction (Pinnacle Race Course).

"There are thousands of people involved directly and indirectly with the industry and this celebration is about them," Christine White, Racing Commissioner said. "Pari-mutuel horse racing is a 75-year tradition in Michigan because of the dedication of these people."

The recent release of the Office of Racing Commissioner's (ORC) 2007 annual report showed that over 1,935 days of live and simulcast racing, more than one million Michigan horse racing fans wagered over \$260 million-generating \$8 million in state wagering tax revenue and providing local communities \$1.1 million for police and fire protection costs. In addition, the industry generated income for the State through taxes including personal income, property, Michigan Business Tax and the wagering tax unique to the horse racing industry.

The Office of Racing Commissioner is the official state agency charged with regulating, promoting and serving the horse racing industry in Michigan. During 2008, Michigan horse racing is celebrating its 75th Anniversary of pari-mutuel horse racing in our State. For more information about upcoming events, the six pari-mutuel horse race tracks, racing schedules and Michigan horse racing, visit www.michigan.gov/horseracing.

Michigan Horse Racing - Winning for 75 Years

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